CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 5 MAY 1988 AT 9:15 A.M.
IN BC-110, SGW CAMPUS

ATTENDANCE: Present were:

C.H. Langford (Chair), P. Fazio, G. Johns, K. Lipke, B. MacKay, P. Shizgal, A.J. Williams, S. Bulzan (Secretary)

Absent with regrets:

P. Albert, C. Ross, C.Y. Suen, M.N.S. Swamy, M. Szabo

Absent:

J. Boivin, P. Lightbown

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED & DISTRIBUTED TO SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE:

SRC-88-05-05-D45 CONFLICT OF INTEREST GUIDELINES

SRC-88-05-05-D46 UNIVERSITY OVERHEAD REVENUE

Dr. C.H. Langford occupied the Chair.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1.1 It was moved and seconded (Lipke, MacKay) and unanimously RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Senate Research Committee meeting of 7 April 1988 be approved.

.../2

II. CHAIR'S REMARKS

A. NSERC Strategic Grants

2.1 The Chair reported on the evolution of the Strategic Grants Program. The Science Council evaluation procedure was seen to leave two major difficulties with the Strategic Grants Program:

i) the scientific difficulty where inadequate attention is given to environment and resource research; and
ii) the political difficulty, if the Science Council themes were to be adopted, where a large share of the grants go to Ontario and smaller amounts to Quebec and British Columbia creating geographic exclusions in the Strategic Grants Program.

2.2 The Chair will report on this item again as it develops.

B. Meeting with the Social Science Federation of Canada

2.1 The Chair reported that the Executive Secretary of the Social Science Federation visited Concordia recently to speak of their efforts and obtain feedback to their work.

2.2 The Chair noted that the SSFC has been following the selection of the new SSHRC President, but that so far no candidate has been accepted by the government.

2.3 The Committee was informed that SSHRC will be organizing a conference next year to deal with the question of undergraduate curricula and the problem of general education.

C. Director of Research Services - A.J. Williams

2.1 Ms. Williams announced that the contribution of incentive money had been received from NSERC and that we are in the 19th position across Canada.

2.2 An announcement was made that the new Director of the UQAM-R&D-CONCORDIA Liaison Office is Roch Prud'Homme who has come from a position at CIIM (Centre for Industrial Innovation Montreal). Mr. Prud'Homme will be introduced to the Committee at the next SRC meeting.

.../3

III. SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT OF RESEARCH CENTRES

A) Status of Federal Networks Initiative

3.1 The Chair mentioned that there has been no official announcement made yet about the federal networks initiative. However, best guesses are that a network would be funded at a level of 4-5 million dollars. At present, there are approximately 100 initiatives which may be reduced to about 30 or 40 with a final selection of approximately eight Centres.

B) General Aspects

3.1 Several suggestions were made by the members regarding the Committee's position on this issue. Dr. Fazio will draft a series of questions for circulation to the Committee concerning implementation procedures. This list will be used to elicit responses from Centre Directors regarding problems being encountered. Since we have not been able to get in touch with Centre Directors, this issue will be carried over to the September SRC Agenda.

IV. CONTRACT OVERHEADS - INCENTIVES AND DISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES

4.1 The Chair mentioned that he had as yet not received any response to his memo dated 20 April 1988 to Faculty Deans requesting information on research contract overheads.

4.2 The Office of Research Services was asked to prepare a table showing the distribution of overhead revenue. These statistics were circulated to the Committee for their information. A revised version entitled "Distribution of Overhead Revenue" will be re-circulated to the Committee.

.../4

V. CONFLICT OF INTEREST GUIDELINES (SRC-88-05-05-D45)

5.1 The above document was prepared by the SRC Sub-Committee and deals with problems that can arise when members of the University community become involved in ownership of enterprises which can exploit their research activities in the University.

5.2 The Chair suggested that the Committee make editorial changes if necessary. A revised version will be circulated to the Committee prior to the next meeting.

5.3 This item will be put back on the June Agenda for further discussion. The Chair suggested that Dr. Johns make this document available to members of his faculty for their input.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.